WASHINGTON STAR (GREEN LINE)
13 AUGUST 1976

Carter Defines Abortion View

United Press International

Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter says he doesn't believe the government should do anything to encourage abortion, but that he could not support a constitutional amendment to outlaw it.

In an interview with the National Catholic News Service, Carter also called the Democratic party's platform plank on abortion "inappropriate" and said it does not reflect his views on that subject.

The party's position is that a constitutional amendment to bar abortion would be "undesirable."

THE PARTY SHOULD NOT be taking a stand that seems to inhibit a citizen's right to seek to resolve an issue by constitutional amendment, Carter said.

While he opposes an amendment that would ban all abortions, Carter said, "I think abortion is wrong and that government ought not ever do anything to encourage abortion."

He said he favored the Georgia law that was struck down by the Supreme Court in its 1973 decision legalizing abortion. It allowed abortions only when the mother's life or health was in danger or if the pregnancy was a result of rape.

Carter said the government "will under my administration" do everything possible to minimize abortions under whatever rulings the court might have in effect. He said he does not favor use of federal funds to pay for abortions of any sort.

IN A BUSY DAY yesterday, Carter received a pledge of all-out campaign help from California Gov. Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr., sat through a six-hour briefing from CIA Director George Bush and reiterated to reporters that he is willing to debate the Republican's presidential nominee.

He was joined by running mate Walter Mondale for the meetings with Bush and then Brown, whose chartered plane arrived on the grassy strip at Plains only moments before Bush's helicopter left.

"The country is at a crossroads. Unless we make a leap forward, we're in deep trouble," Brown told reporters.